



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Philadelphia District

Wanamaker Building
100 Penn Square East
Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390
ATTN: CENAP-OP-R

Public Notice

Public Notice No.
CENAP-OP-R-2012-0974-1

Date
OCT 19 2012

Application No.

File No.

In Reply Refer to:
REGULATORY BRANCH

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments and recommendations from the public concerning issuance of a Department of the Army permit for the work described below.

APPLICANT: City of Philadelphia, Division of Aviation
Terminal D-E Philadelphia International Airport
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19153

AGENT: Daniel Grenier, URS Corporation

WATERWAY: Delaware River and Schuylkill River

LOCATION: The proposed taxiway project is located in the Tinicum Township section of Philadelphia International Airport along the Delaware River. The proposed wetland mitigation site is located along the Schuylkill River within the Bartram Gardens property in the City and County of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

ACTIVITY: The proposed activity is the extension of Taxiway - K a linear distance of 2,225 linear feet. The proposed taxiway would connect existing Taxiway -Z and the existing deicing apron and Cargo City facilities. The proposed project would also include the installation of new stormwater culverts and outfall structure into the existing stormwater management pond on the airport property. The proposed extension would include the filling and loss of 1.49 acres of emergent non-tidal wetland habitat for the taxiway fill and the temporary disturbance of an additional 0.05 acres of wetlands for the stormwater pipe installation. The wetlands within the proposed disturbance area would be characterized as non-tidal low value emergent wetlands that are periodically mowed as part of the airport operations. As compensation for the proposed wetland loss, the applicant is proposing to conduct a wetland enhancement and creation project along the Schuylkill River at the Bartram Gardens property. The proposed wetland mitigation site currently supports approximately 1.25 acres of man-made tidal wetlands with a limited tidal exchange, that was constructed in 1997. The proposed plan would include re-grading and excavation to enhance this existing tidal wetland to develop a 2.33 acre tidal wetland complex. The proposed wetland complex would include 1.54 acres of open water and emergent tidal wetland, 0.24 acres of scrub/shrub wetland habitat, 0.23 acres of forested/shrub wetland habitat,

and 0.33 acres of upland buffer habitat. A description of the proposed project, including the proposed wetland mitigation work is shown on the attached plans.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the proposed taxiway construction is to improve the safe movement of larger modern aircraft between the existing taxiway network and the existing deicing apron and Cargo City facilities on the grounds of Philadelphia International Airport. The proposed mitigation work at Bartram Gardens would compensate for the loss of wetland habitat associated with the taxiway construction.

A review of this application, including the proposed taxiway construction and wetland mitigation site, indicates that the proposed work would not affect listed species or their critical habitat pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended. As the evaluation of this application continues, additional information may become available which could modify this preliminary determination.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the activity's probable impact including its cumulative impacts on the public interest. The decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the work must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the work will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs and welfare of the people. A Department of the Army permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Comments on the proposed work should be submitted, in writing, within 30 days to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District, Wanamaker Building, 100 Penn Square East, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-3390.

The site of the proposed taxiway construction was reviewed as part of a previous NEPA investigation. Based upon that investigation it is concluded that the proposed taxiway construction would not affect any properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places or properties listed as eligible for inclusion therein. However, an archaeological investigation was conducted on the Bartram Gardens property in the vicinity of the proposed mitigation site. This

investigation was coordinated with the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission. The investigation identified archaeological resources that were determined to be eligible for listing on the National Register. Subsequent to these discussions between the applicant, FAA and PHMC the mitigation plan was modified to avoid this resource location. While there are archaeological resources at the Bartram Gardens property, these resources would not be located within the permit area of the proposed work, and as such would not be affected by this project. It is further noted that the proposed taxiway construction project and the associated wetland compensation/mitigation work is being funded, in part, by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). As such, the FAA would be the lead federal agency with respect to compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act 1996 (Public Law 104-267), requires all Federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency that may adversely effect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). Based upon an assessment of the species listed in the "Guide to Essential Fish Habitat Designations in the Northeastern United States, Volume IV: New Jersey and Delaware", dated March 1999, the proposed project would not affect any essential fish habitat. While the tidal waters of the Delaware River adjacent to the project are defined by the National Marine Fisheries Service as part of the mixing zone of the Delaware Estuary, this project would impact non-tidal wetlands within the airport operations area that do not support any habitat for managed species or their prey species. The proposed wetland mitigation site along the Schuylkill River is located upstream of the Delaware Estuary mixing zone. Further, the existing wetland at the mitigation site has only limited tidal exchange with minimal finfish values. The proposed mitigation plan would enhance the overall ecological value at this site. Based upon the above analysis, the Corps of Engineers has determined that the proposed project would not have a direct, indirect, site-specific, or habitat-wide impact on EFH, or upon the managed species and their life stages listed in the above referenced EFH guide, either individually, cumulatively or synergistically. The proposed project would not eliminate, diminish, nor disrupt the functions of EFH.

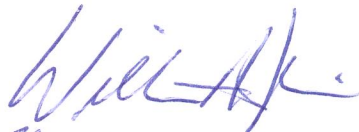
In accordance with Section 307(c) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, applicants for Federal Licenses or Permits to conduct an activity affecting land or water uses in a State's coastal zone must provide certification that the activity complies with the State's Coastal Zone Management Program. The applicant has stated that the proposed activity complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the approved State Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program. No permit will be issued until the State has concurred with the applicant's certification or has waived its right to do so. Comments concerning the impact of the proposed and/or existing activity on the State's coastal zone should be sent to this office, with a copy to the State's Office of Coastal Zone Management. A permit application with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection is currently under review.

In accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, a Water Quality Certificate is necessary from the State government in which the work is located. Any comments concerning the work described above which relate to Water Quality considerations should be sent to this office with a copy to the State. As noted above, a permit application is currently under review with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

The evaluation of the impact of the work described above on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

Any person may request, in writing, to the District Engineer, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state in writing, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Additional information concerning this permit application may be obtained by calling Mr. Edward Bonner at 215-656-5932, via email at edward.e.bonner@usace.army.mil, or writing this office at the above address.

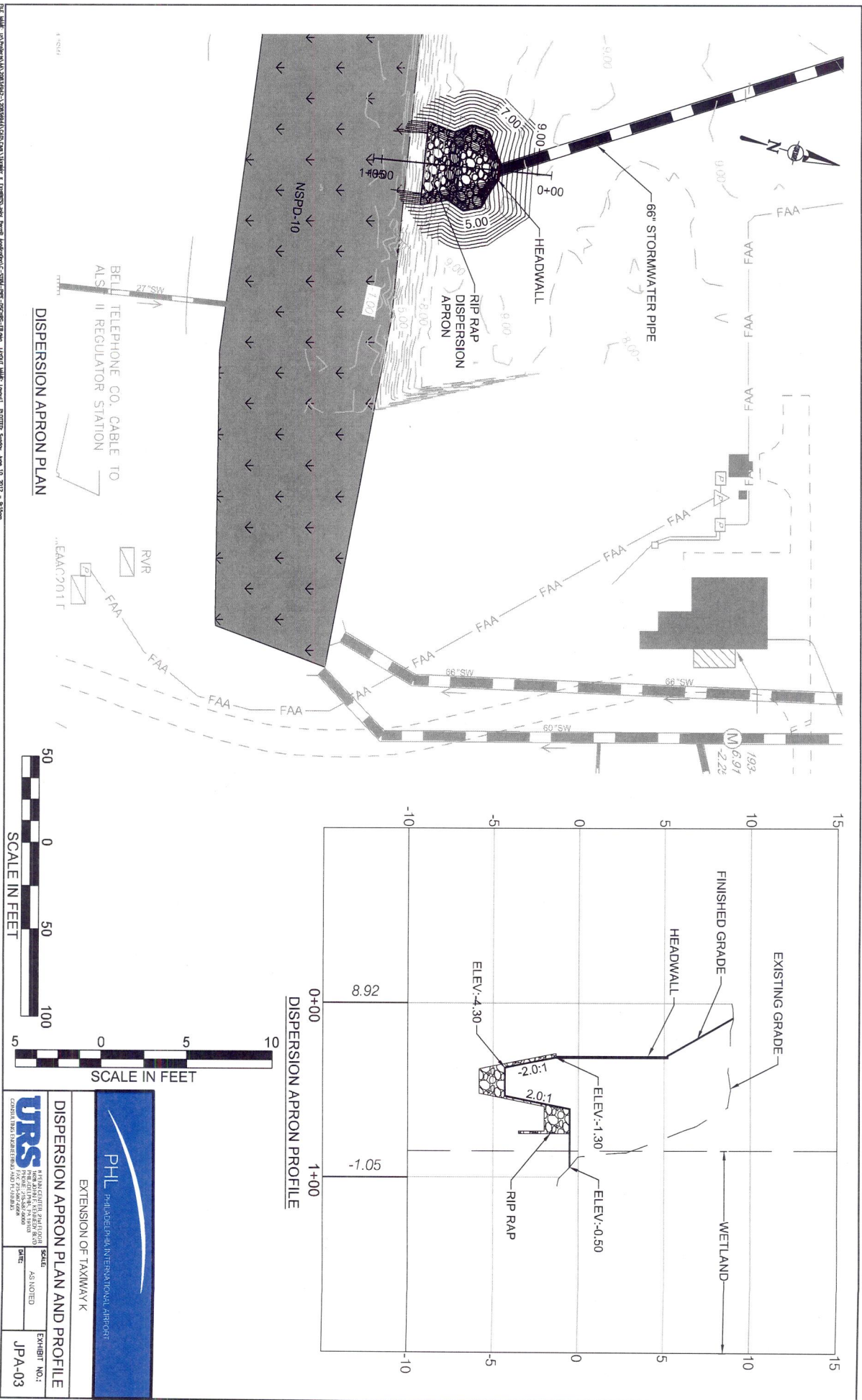


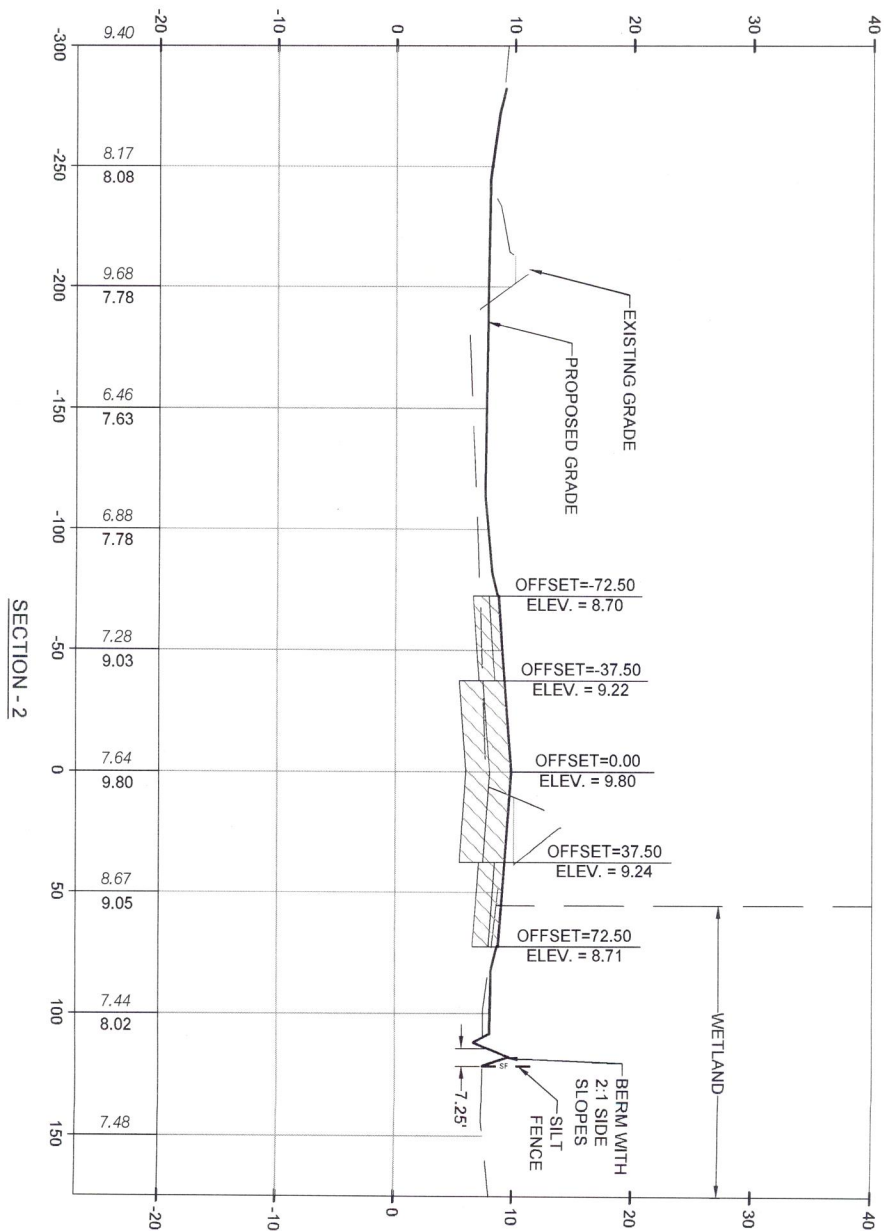
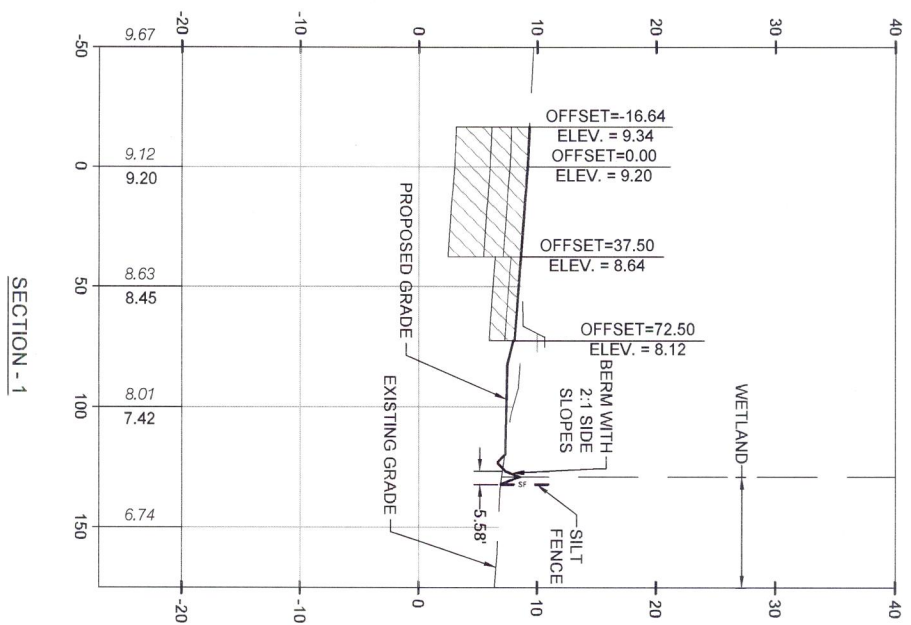
Frank J. Cianfrani
Chief, Regulatory Branch



Figure 1. Project are location



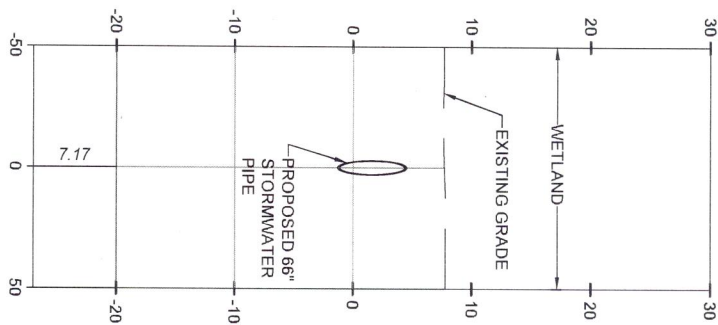
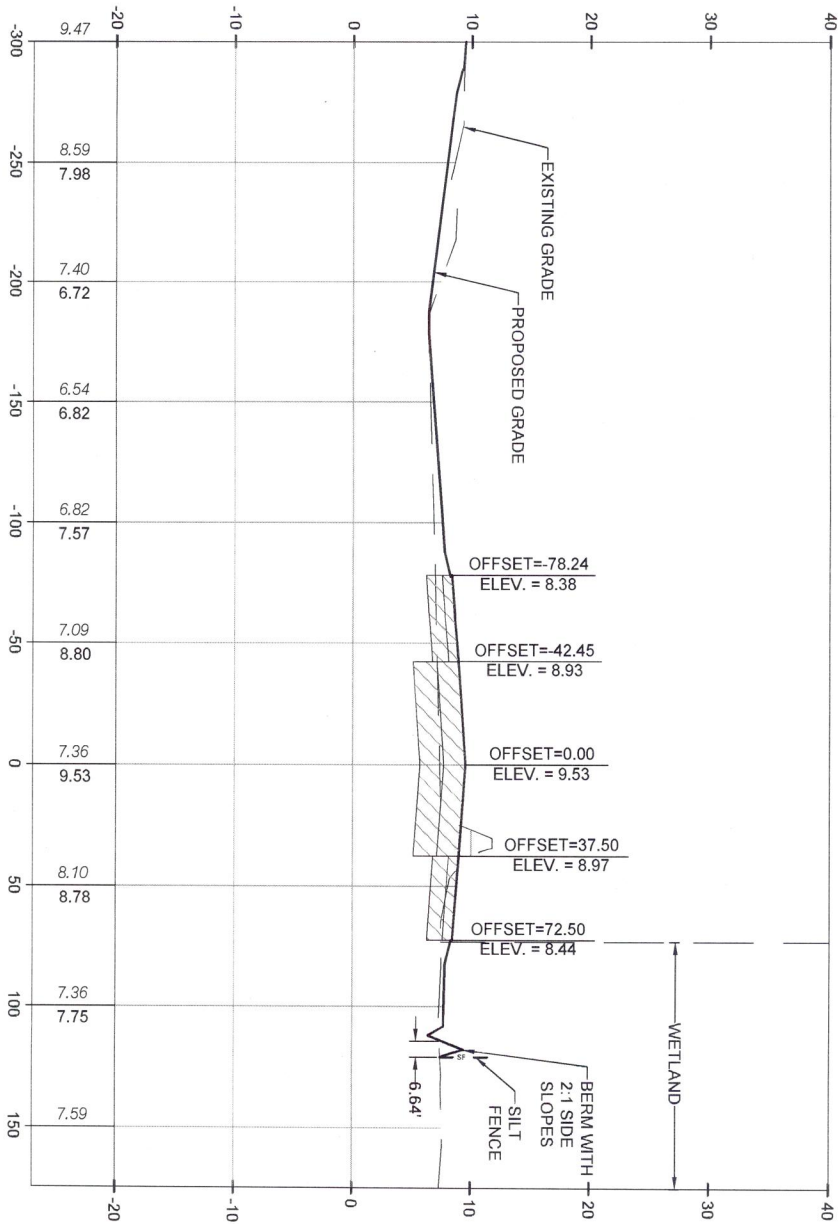




HORIZ.: 0 50'

SCALE: 1" = 10'

 P&H PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT EXTENSION OF TAXIWAY K	
SECTIONS	
FOUR AS ORDERED	H&H ENGINEERING & DESIGN 1000 N. 10TH AVE., SUITE 100 FRYSBURG, CO 80601 TEL: 719-584-8066 FAX: 719-584-8068
DATE:	EXHIBIT NO.: JPA-04



HORIZ. 0
SCALE: VERT. 0 10'

PHL PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
EXTENSION OF TAXIWAY K

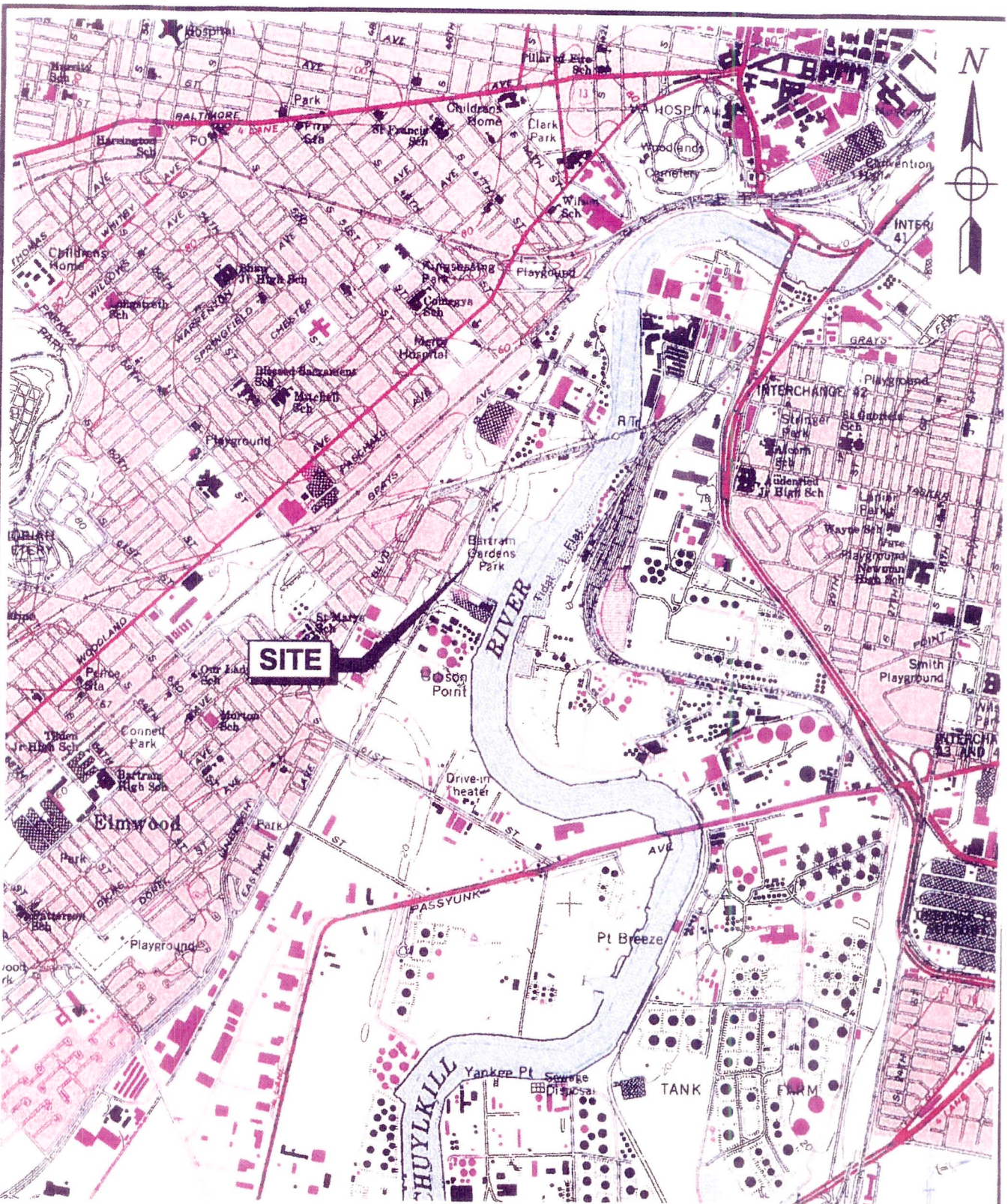
SECTIONS - 1

URS URS CORPORATION
1000 MARKET STREET, SUITE 2000
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19102
DATE: 06/28/2011

SCALE: AS NOTED

EXHIBIT NO.: JPA-05

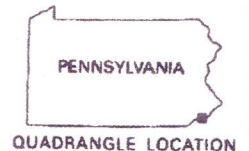
Drawn By & Date: jrm: Joseph_Shell Jun 06, 2012 - 5:06pm
 Drawing Location & Name: S:\Resources\CADD\Bartrams Garden\110915 Bartram's Site-mp-ersa - Standard\Soils Report\Figure 3 Site Location Map.dwg



REFERENCE:
 PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA
 USGS QUADRANGLES, 1967
 REVISED 1994.

0 1,000 2,000 4,000

SCALE: 1 INCH = 2,000 FEET



URS

335 COMMERCE DRIVE, SUITE 300
 FORT WASHINGTON, PA 19034
 PHONE: (215) 387-2500 FAX: (215) 387-1000

Job: 20835660.20000

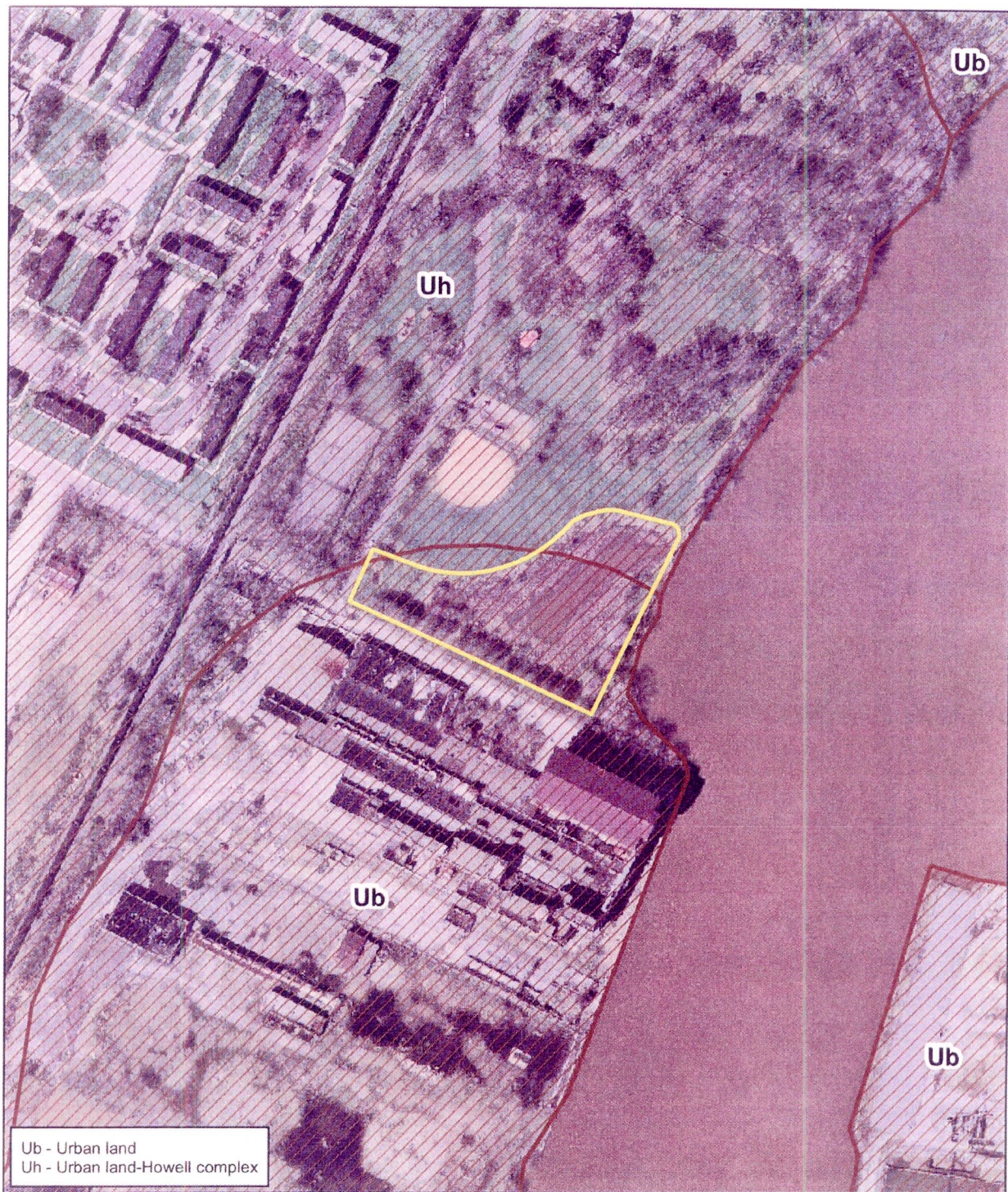
Prepared by: JES

Checked by: TM

Date: 06/05/12

SITE LOCATION MAP
 BARTRAM'S GARDEN
 2901 SOUTH 56th STREET
 PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

FIGURE 3



Legend

- Approximate Project Limits
- NRCS Soils

200 100 0 200
Feet
1 inch = 250 feet

Reference:
NRCS SSURGO,
DVRPC Imagery, 2006



URS

335 Commerce Drive, Suite 300
Fort Washington, PA 19034
Phone: (215) 367-2500 Fax: (215) 367-1000

Job: 20834946.00002

Prepared by: RRM III

Checked by: TM

Date: 6/27/2012

Figure 6
PHL Philadelphia International Airport
Bartram's Garden Mitigation Site
Soils Map



